

## **MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order on Wednesday, June 2, 2004, at 4:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Barbara Perry in the Council Chambers, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

**Present:** Johnny Safrit, Preston Sale, Cindy Bridges, Judy Kandl, Michael Lippard, Bill Safrit, and Barbara Perry

**Absent:** Bruce Wilson, James Donaldson, Suzette Davis, and Greta Connor

**Staff:** Lynn Raker, Janice Bodford

**Other:** Robert Crum

The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

Reviewed and approved the financial report for May. Barbara inquired about using the appropriations fund for purchasing another planter, since those funds will be lost unless they are used. Lynn replied that we cannot use that fund for planters; however, she informed the commission that we will be getting six (6) planters. The City is funding one through the T21 Grant to block the connecting sidewalk between the 100 block of S Lee Street and the new parking lot behind the Gateway Building. People have been driving over that sidewalk thinking it is an exit. The Chamber of Commerce is buying two (2) planters, and F&M Bank is buying three (3) for their block area. Lynn thinks there are some funds left in the line item for spring and fall spruce-ups (CAC programs). That money could be used to purchase new signs for the landscape of the month. Discussion followed regarding the types of signs. The signs have held up well, it is the stands that need replacing. Johnny had them made at Rowan Precision Metals last time. Preston will get a price from someone he knows as well. We only need 2. Motion was made to use remaining funds in the Programs account, with Johnny's discretion, to buy 2 stands for the existing Landscape of the Month signs. Motion was seconded by Bill Safrit. Motion carried. Lynn will advise Johnny tomorrow morning if the money is available.

The Revenue account is unchanged and those funds will be carried over into next fiscal year. Janice checked on the interest for this account. Finance will only be posting interest once a year on this account and the amount to be posted in June is around \$20.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Art in Public Places:** Lynn announced that The Robertson Foundation approved a grant for the Depot Street mosaic in the amount of \$10,000.00. The total projected cost of the mosaic is

\$25,000.00, leaving \$15,000.00 to be raised by other means. The CAC needs to form a sub-committee to come up with a strategy for raising the money. Bruce Wilson, as chair of the Art in Public Places Committee, was appointed to head this sub-committee. Barbara Perry, Cindee Bridges, and Preston Sale volunteered to serve on this committee.

Robert Crum updated CAC on the development of the mosaic project. He commented that he was pleased with the receipt of the grant, but was a little disappointed with the amount of money it leaves to be raised. Robert has met with North State Tile regarding the color selection and the ordering time is about 6 weeks to be delivered from Texas. He is mapping out a time frame of the amount of time it will take for drawings, to bring a final design for CAC approval, ordering and shipping of the tiles.

Robert's research for the composition of the mosaic has led him to the NC Transportation Museum, a book called Faces of Railroading, and he is searching for cultural diversity to include in the project. He is still planning to use a large train and the Depot, and is will add a streetcar. He shared several drawings that he has been working on, including a signalman with a lantern, and various workmen.

We know we have a little money to get started, but not enough to do the project. Robert's dilemma is the timing of the project. If he can't get started in laying the tile before it is cold weather, then it will have to wait until spring. He is trying to juggle his time in working on this project and other works at the same time. It would be helpful to have an image to use for fundraising purposes. Barbara asked about the boundaries for fundraising. Do we have to get approval from City Hall for fundraising events? Robert asked about doing a letter writing campaign to people who may be interested in supporting this project. CAC agreed it would be a good way to get started. Robert is also concerned that the cost of the project may go up if we have to delay the start until next year. The Mosaic sub-committee made plans to meet next week. Various ideas for fundraising and the recognition of donors were discussed. A meeting is scheduled for Monday at 3:30 in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room.

**Neighborhoods & Education Committee:** As a follow-up to last month's meeting with the Neighborhood Leaders and the interest expressed in having gateways to the various neighborhoods, Lynn consulted with the City's traffic engineers and presented a sketch of the recommended turning points at Mocksville Avenue, Cemetery Street and Caldwell Street which is the entrance to the Jersey City neighborhood. This sketch left potential for a large triangular area that could be planted and have a gateway sign into the community. The sketch was presented to the Jersey City neighborhood meeting recently and they seemed to like the idea. Their highest priorities were improvements to housing in the neighborhood and reducing the speed of trucks through the neighborhood.

Barbara asked if a similar plan could be used in the Park Avenue neighborhood. Lynn replied that there is not a similar site for that neighborhood. Park Avenue is a more traditional, grid shape and all the entrances into the neighborhood are just the streets extending through. However, there are some pretty obvious areas that could serve as an entrance such as N. Boundary just past East Innes St. The City owns property on both sides at this intersection. This information needs to be shared with City Council to let them know what the community leaders are saying.

Judy asked about a map of the various neighborhoods. We do have some and we will try to print some more of them to be distributed at our next meeting.

**Landscaping:** The signs have been put out for McCombs and KMD Construction. Preston has volunteered to put up the signs for Johnny for the rest of this year. Since we don't meet in July, we need to go ahead and name winners for both June and July. South Main Business Park and Linda Edmondson were selected to be the winners for June. Manning Park (A&H Investments) and the Huffman's were selected for July.

Cindee nominated Bill & Patty Mason's residence on Confederate Avenue and Lynn nominated 1910 Bringle Ferry Road. Cindee recommended South Trust Bank on Jake Alexander and Brenner Avenue and the Wilco across the street.

**Municipal Service District and Innes Street Improvement Grants:** All money has been allocated. We may not get the old Cheerwine Sign painted on the side of the Clayworks building that used to be owned by Denny Mecham. She had given permission to do it, but now it is owned by the Attorneys next door (Doran Shelby Pethel & Hudson).

Bill Safrit was appointed Chairman of both the MSD and Innes Street Improvement Grant committees.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** A citizen called Barbara and asked her to have the CAC look into the sign for Bradshaw Bail Bondsmen on Church Street near Soldiers Memorial AME Zion Church. They thought it was too big for the district and wondered if it had been approved. Lynn said if it was in B6, it can have a large sign. Lynn said she would check into it with David Phillips. If it is in the historic district it would have required a certificate of appropriateness (COA).

Lynn informed the CAC that there has been some discussion in the City Planning Department about whether or not murals should somehow be included in the zoning ordinance and the term "regulated" has even been used. This has come up because of the discussions of Art and History walk, the mosaic and murals. If it follows the regular cycle of coming before the Planning Board and the Planning Board making a recommendation to Council, we are hopeful that Council would refer it back to the Appearance Commission much like they did for the electronic sign issue. Lynn checked with other cities and the only city that mentioned mural(s) at all was in Cary. It was in one line of their Signs Not Regulated section and murals were not regulated. It was a concern of one of our planners on staff about whether it should be regulated. This person felt it was similar to a sign in some respect. CAC members expressed feelings of displeasure with regulating public art.

Bill remarked about the area around KTown Furniture. Could the CAC send a letter to them asking them to clean up the appearance around their store? Lynn said they could apply for an Innes Street Grant.

Cindee also commented on a house on Caldwell Street that has couches out front. Inside furniture outside a home is against City ordinance and cars without a current tag can also be enforced. We can ask Jeff Benfield to go by there and check it out.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.